



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
PAY-AS-YOU-GO ESTIMATE**

January 4, 2002

**H.R. 2277**

**An act to provide for work authorization for nonimmigrant spouses  
of treaty traders and investors**

*As cleared by the Congress on December 20, 2001*

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 2277 would result in no significant net cost to the federal government. The act could affect direct spending, but we estimate that any net effects would be insignificant.

H.R. 2277 would permit the spouses of certain nonimmigrant investors and businessmen to seek employment in the United States. Based on information from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), CBO estimates that the act's provisions would apply to roughly 10,000 spouses annually. The INS would charge a fee of \$100 to provide a work permit, so the agency could collect an additional \$1 million annually in offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending). The agency is authorized to spend such fees without further appropriation, so the net impact on INS spending would be negligible.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.